

WHAT IS CLAIMED:

1. A multi-band antenna comprising:
 - a first planar inverted-F antenna branch configured to resonate in response to
5 first electromagnetic radiation in a first frequency band;
 - a second planar inverted-F antenna branch configured to resonate in response
to second electromagnetic radiation in a second frequency band that is less than the
first frequency band;
 - a ground plane beneath the first and second planar inverted-F antenna
10 branches and ohmically isolated therefrom; and
 - a floating parasitic element ohmically isolated from the second planar
inverted-F antenna branch and the ground plane and configured to electromagnetically
couple to the second planar inverted-F antenna branch.
- 15 2. A multi-band antenna according to Claim 1 wherein the floating
parasitic element is coplanar with the second planar inverted-F antenna branch.
3. A multi-band antenna according to Claim 1 wherein the floating
parasitic element is beneath and at least partially overlaps the second planar inverted-
20 F antenna branch.
4. A multi-band antenna according to Claim 3 wherein the floating
parasitic element is between the ground plane and the second planar inverted-F
antenna branch.
- 25 5. A multi-band antenna according to Claim 1 wherein the first and
second planar inverted-F antenna branches extend in a first direction to partially
enclose an open region.
- 30 6. A multi-band antenna according to Claim 5 wherein the second planar
inverted-F antenna branch is between the floating parasitic element and the open
region.

7. A multi-band antenna according to Claim 6 wherein the second planar inverted-F antenna branch extends in first and second directions and the floating parasitic element extends in the first and second directions.

5 8. A multi-band antenna according to Claim 1 wherein the first planar inverted-F antenna branch is configured to provide a first signal component in a first frequency range of the first frequency band; and

wherein the floating parasitic element is configured to resonate to provide a second signal component in the first frequency band in a second frequency range in
10 the first frequency band that overlaps the first frequency range to provide a Voltage Standing Wave Ratio for the multi-band antenna assembly in the first frequency band of about 2.5:1.

9. A multi-band antenna according to Claim 1 further comprising:
15 a dielectric substrate having the first and second planar inverted-F antenna branches mounted thereon, the first and second planar inverted-F antenna branches coupled to one another at a proximal portion of the dielectric substrate.

10. A multi-band antenna according to Claim 9 further comprising:
20 an RF feed coupled to the first and second planar inverted-F antenna branches at the proximal portion of the dielectric substrate; and
a ground contact spaced apart from the RF feed.

11. A multi-band antenna according to Claim 1 wherein the first frequency
25 band includes frequencies in a range between about 1710 MHz and about 1990 MHz.

12. A multi-band antenna according to Claim 1 wherein the second
frequency band includes frequencies in a range between about 824 MHz and about
960 MHz.

30 13. A multi-band antenna according to Claim 1 wherein the multi-band antenna is located in a cavity of a housing of a wireless terminal.

14. A multi-band antenna according to Claim 1 wherein the multi-band antenna is configured to couple to an exterior of a housing of a wireless terminal.

15. A multi-band wireless terminal, comprising:
5 a housing that defines a cavity inside the housing;
a transceiver, positioned within the cavity, that receives multi-band wireless communications signals and that transmits multi-band wireless communications signals; and
a multi-band antenna in the cavity comprising
10 a first planar inverted-F antenna branch configured to resonate in response to first electromagnetic radiation in a first frequency band;
a second planar inverted-F antenna branch configured to resonate in response to second electromagnetic radiation in a second frequency band that is less than the first frequency band; and
15 a ground plane beneath the first and second planar inverted-F antenna branches and ohmically isolated therefrom; and
a floating parasitic element ohmically isolated from the second planar inverted-F antenna branch and the ground plane and configured to electromagnetically couple to the second planar inverted-F antenna branch.

20 16. A multi-band wireless terminal according to Claim 15 wherein the floating parasitic element is coplanar with the second planar inverted-F antenna branch.

25 17. A multi-band wireless terminal according to Claim 15 wherein the floating parasitic element is beneath and at least partially overlaps the second planar inverted-F antenna branch.

30 18. A multi-band wireless terminal according to Claim 15 wherein the first and second planar inverted-F antenna branches extend in a first direction to partially enclose an open region.

19. A multi-band wireless terminal according to Claim 18 wherein the second planar inverted-F antenna branch is between the floating parasitic element and the open region.

5 20. A multi-band wireless terminal according to Claim 19 wherein the second planar inverted-F antenna branch extends in first and second directions and the floating parasitic element extends in the first and second directions.

10 21. A multi-band wireless terminal according to Claim 15 wherein the first planar inverted-F antenna branch is configured to provide a first signal component in a first frequency range of the first frequency band; and

wherein the floating parasitic element is configured to resonate to provide a second signal component in the first frequency band in a second frequency range in the first frequency band that overlaps the first frequency range to provide a Voltage
15 Standing Wave Ratio for the multi-band antenna assembly in the first frequency band of about 2.5:1.

22. A multi-band wireless terminal according to Claim 15 wherein the first frequency band includes frequencies in a range between about 1710 MHz and about
20 1990 MHz.

23. A multi-band wireless terminal according to Claim 15 wherein the second frequency band includes frequencies in a range between about 824 MHz and about 960 MHz.

25 24. A multi-band wireless terminal according to Claim 15 wherein the floating parasitic element is coplanar with the second planar inverted-F antenna branch.

30 25. A multi-band wireless terminal according to Claim 15 wherein the floating parasitic element is beneath and at least partially overlaps the second planar inverted-F antenna branch.

26. A multi-band wireless terminal according to Claim 15 wherein the floating parasitic element is above and at least partially overlaps the second planar inverted-F antenna branch.